

#### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action dated June 22, 2006. Claims 1-16 and 19-20 are pending in the application. By this response, claims 1, 7, 16, and 19 are amended, and claims 17-18 are cancelled. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bodnar et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,143,945 ("*Bodnar*"). Applicants believe all pending claims are allowable over the art of record and respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all claims.

#### **I. Claims 1-16 and 19-20 are patentable over *Bodnar*.**

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-20 under § 103 as being unpatentable over *Bodnar*. Applicants submit that, contrary to MPEP § 2143, the Examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness in rejecting such claims in that the Examiner has failed to cite references that teach or suggest all of the elements recited in the rejected claims. Please note that claims 17-18 are cancelled by this response.

Claims 1, 7, and 16 are independent claims upon which claims 2-6, 8-15, and 19-20 depend, respectively. Independent claims 1, 7, and 16, as amended, recite "wherein the reaction system is separated into an A component containing the polyisocyanate component and a B component containing the isocyanate-reactive component and the isocyanate-reactive foaming agent, and wherein the A component and B component are blended to achieve an Index of 0.8 to 1.3." Nothing in *Bodnar* teaches or suggests wherein the A component and B component are blended to achieve an Index of 0.8 to 1.3. Instead, *Bodnar* discloses Index ranges that are well above the recited range of 0.8 to 1.3. For instance, the Examples of *Bodnar* provide Tables teaching Index ranges well above the recited range of claims 1, 7, and 16. (*Bodnar*, Examples)

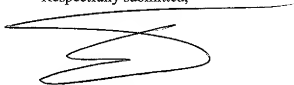
In view of the recitations in independent claims 1, 7, and 16 that are neither taught nor suggested by *Bodnar*, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the § 103 rejection and allow the claims. Applicants further request that the Examiner also withdraw the § 103 rejections of dependent claims 2-6, 8-15, and 19-20, since it is submitted that independent claims 1, 7, and 16 are allowable. Dependent claims 2-6, 8-15, and 19-20 must *a fortiori* also be allowable, since they carry with them all the limitations of the independent claims to which they ultimately refer.

## II. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, allowance of the pending claims and a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite the resolution of this case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicants may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may be other distinctions between the claims and the prior art that have yet to be raised but which may be raised in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



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